

House Resolution No. 731

Whereas, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize the Old North St. Louis Restoration Group in St. Louis, Missouri, which will receive the 2005 Missouri Preservation McReynolds Award during a special presentation to be held February 23, 2005, in the Rotunda of the Missouri State Capitol; and

Whereas, Missouri Preservation, known formally as the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation, is Missouri's only statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, supporting, and coordinating historic preservation activities throughout the state; and

Whereas, Old North St. Louis began as an independent village nearly two hundred years ago and was home to more than 150,000 in 1940; and

Whereas, today Old North St. Louis has only 1,500 residents while postwar highway construction, failed urban renewal projects, absentee landlords, and arson have resulted in a landscape of boarded up buildings and vacant lots; and

Whereas, in the 1980s, several families came together to form the Old North St. Louis Restoration Group and chose historic preservation as their redevelopment strategy, helping each other with the rehabilitation of homes, creating "community gardens", and promoting an appreciation for the area's rich history; and

Whereas, in 2001, the Old North St. Louis Restoration Group formed a partnership with the University of Missouri-St. Louis Public Policy Research Center and expanded its activities to include technical, environmental health, and safety training, and to attract new investments that would value the historic nature of the neighborhood; and

Whereas, recent successes in Old North St. Louis include the construction of forty-one new and rehabilitated homes in North Market Place, the stabilization and rehabilitation of rental property, grants to assist property repairs by existing homeowners, selection as one of St. Louis' "Best Up and Coming Places to Live" by St. Louis Magazine, and the adoption of guidelines for the sale of property to ensure that new owners have the capacity to redevelop the buildings:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty and robust congratulations to the Old North St. Louis Restoration Group at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Old North St. Louis Restoration Group.

Offered by _____
Representative Rodney R. Hubbard
District No. 58

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do

certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 731, adopted February 22, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker